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11-30-78
By []

6 January 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Administration)

SUBJECT: Status of Inspection in the Security
Office by the Clark Committee CIA Task Force

1. The second day (5 January 1955) of inspection by the Clark Committee was occupied as follows:

2. From 9:00 to 10:00 a.m., a conference was held by the Director of Security with the Committee, explaining in more detail his position with respect to screening and clearance procedures aimed at detecting and eliminating any communists in the Agency. The Committee stated that they had received numerous letters of a derogatory nature to the Agency and allegations that there were communists in the Agency, but stated that they had not been furnished with any specific names of any alleged communists in the Agency. The Committee stated that they wished to be furnished with a statement setting forth the methods and procedures which are used by the Security Office in determining a security risk.

3. From 10:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., the Committee was briefed by the Chief, Interrogation Research Branch/Personnel Security Division on the functions and activities of his branch, which is concerned with the polygraph. The Committee was briefed in detail concerning the history of the polygraph, its use and development by the Agency, the standards and regulations under which it is used by the Agency. They were further informed on the techniques of interrogation with the polygraph, being shown various charts and the methods of interpreting such charts. The Committee indicated great interest in this operation and appeared to be well pleased with the briefing. They were particularly interested in the method of protecting the confidential nature of the records in this branch.

4. From 1:00 to 3:30 p.m., the Committee resumed its inspection of the Clearance Branch/Personnel Security Division and were further briefed by the chief of that branch and the Chief, Personnel Security Division in the methods and procedures used by the Security Office in determining a security risk. They were informed on the policy of the Security Office with respect to the requirements, qualifications, and training of appraisers and with the controls which are set up to insure against the intentional withholding of any derogatory information from a file. They were also briefed on the practice of continually drawing files for additional review after the initial clearance has been given.

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5. From 3:30 to 4:00 p.m., the Committee was briefed by the Chief, Employee Activity Branch/Personnel Security Division on the functions of his branch in guiding, advising, and controlling employees in outside activities, such as speech making, writing for publication, etc.

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Sheffield Edwards
Director of Security

O: Col. White
cc: Mr. Carey
cc: DD/A subject:

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